

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Italy

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DATE DISTR. 18 MAY 1949

SUBJECT Villar Perosa (RIV) Ball Bearing
Trade with Eastern Europe

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. The Villar Perosa Ball Bearing Works (RIV) of Turin exports its bearings to the following areas:
 - a. France, Holland and Switzerland;
 - b. South America, chiefly Argentina; and
 - c. Asia, Africa and Australia (in small quantities).
2. During 1948, bearings have been exported to Eastern European countries under the terms of various commercial treaties between these countries and Italy. The present treaty with Russia provides for the export of bearings to Russia as reparations.
3. During 1948 RIV produced approximately 15,000,000 units of type SKF 6306 bearings. Forty per cent of these bearings was exported to the various foreign markets. RIV was authorized to ask up to sixty per cent of the value on shipments to Eastern Europe in steel. In this manner RIV received up to three times the quantity of raw material that went into the production of the bearings exported eastward.
4. For 1949 RIV is attempting to replace its Eastern European markets with other markets. The following negotiations are underway:
 - a. With Ford in the United States for bearings used in export cars for the last half of 1949;
 - b. With Renault in France for conical roller bearings;
 - c. With Bizone Germany for roller bearings for railroad cars;
 - d. With Brazil, where a sizable increase in sales is shortly expected;
 - e. With the United States to recover the export market which existed after World War I.

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